

# **Pervasiveness Of Child Sexual In Kisii County During The Covid-19 Pandemic: Social Work Perspective**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Child sexual abuse (CSA) is both a social and public health concern locally and globally. A mutual mistaken belief on child sexual abuse is that, it is uncommon occurrence committed against girls by male strangers in both rural and urban areas in Kenya. Notwithstanding myriad research on CSA, little is known about its Pervasiveness. It occurs at all levels of the society affecting not only girls but also boys. The purpose of this study therefore was to investigate the pervasiveness rate of child sexual abuse among pupils during the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 plague is a international historic incident that will remain to affect approximately every facet of ordinary life, including affecting our economic, political, and health-care Eco-systems. The study was informed by the Attachment Theory which suggests that children's lives are centered initially on their parents, the family environment being their primary agent of socialization. Systematic random sampling was used to select the respondents to ensure that the sample was a representative. The study utilized descriptive survey design. The study population was 700 pupils out of which a sample size of 100 (14 percent) pupils was selected. The study used questionnaires administered to each respondent. The researcher administered the questionnaires individually to all respondents. The study found out that threats from perpetrators were preventing the disclosure of child sexual abuse. The research recommends that research, programs and policies should focus on child protection. The patriarchal narrative of manhood needs to change and boys should read from a different script on their roles and place in the society.*

**Key Words:** Attachment theory, Patriarchal narrative, Socialization, perpetrators. COVID-19

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## **I. Introduction**

After the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring COVID-19 global pandemic on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, all schools in Kenya were closed on March 15, 2020 in response to COVID-19 plague, disrupting nearly 17 million learners countrywide. This in return subjected students to all forms of child abusing including but not limited to, child neglect, physical abuse, emotional and psychological abuse and sexual abuse because of their vulnerability and availability during the week days by the perpetrators of these abuses (José G, *et.al*, 2021).

According to WHO 2006, CSA has long-term antagonistic effects on the physiological and psychological and development of children. Researchers have found out that childhood sexual violence has a complementary relationship with the undesirable outcomes such as irritability, extricability, viciousness, capriciousness, tetchiness, depression, hypersexuality, hyposexuality substance abuse and somatic (Wilson, 2010).

According to Stoltenborgh *et.al* (2011), the average global pervasiveness of CSA is estimated to be 11.8%. Other studies have shown than the worldwide pervasiveness of CSA ranges between 7.6 and 8.0% among males and 15.0 and 19.7% among females (Barth *et.al*, 2013). In south America, the pervasiveness of CSA is similar among the female and male that is 13.8% and 13.4%, respectively; (Stoltenborgh *et al.*, 2011). This rate is inconsistent with other continents where the pervasiveness rate of CSA among female tends to be higher than male (Akinyemi *et.al* 2017). Africa for instance, has the highest rates of CSA which is 19.3% for males, 20.2% for females and this might be even higher owing to the fact that most cases are unreported. In Europe, rate of CSA is (5.6% for males, 13.5% for females) whereas in Asia the rate of CSA is (4.1% for males, 11.3% for females). Within North America, the estimated pervasiveness rates approximate the global averages at 8% among males and 20.1% among females (Stoltenborgh *et al.*, 2011). Therefore, the pervasiveness of CSA

across the globe as demonstrated in the continental estimates is high which calls for an exploration of its etiology and the mitigation strategies.

It is important to note that approximating the pervasiveness of sexual violence against children is intricate due to distinct factors. That is, there is no universal defining criterion on what CSA constitutes and rift between the official and self-reported cases on abuse, (Haileye, A. 2013). The classification of CSA on different demographic scale is also another factor that complicates the pervasiveness estimates. For instance, in South America, reporting of CSA cases is very scares. Even in the regions where the reporting rate is high, characterization of CSA is still problematic in those area

According to Masilo, (2018) the age of the child is a strong etiology of child sexual abuse. In Europe, girls have a high pervasiveness to sexual abuse when they are young by someone close to them than boys (Banducci, 2014). Moreover, the girls with no formal education and those neglected by parents as are sult of poverty are significantly more likely to be sexually abused. Most researches have demonstrated that children than do not live with their parents' experience high rates of sexual abuse compared to those that live with their parents, (Mariane Krause 2016)

Most perpetrators who abuse children sexually are oftenly male known to the victim with rates indicating a higher pervasiveness in girls than in boys, (Olafson, 2011). Tillman, *et.al* (2016) found out that girls are two to three times more likely to be sexually abused compared to boys. Nonetheless this approximation is tied to the low rates of reporting, cases that cannot be substantiated and the social stigma on boys' sexual abuse, ( Young,*et.al* 2011). Moreover, the methodological issues where much focus of the previous researchers on sexual abuse experiences of female victims is also a contributing factor to this difference. The hypothesis that girls and boys can be sexually abused has not been sufficiently explored (Barth et al., 2013). Nonetheless, pervasiveness rates have continued placing girls as more at risk of sexual violence than boys. The vulnerability to sexual abuse decreases with age for boys and it's at peek during adolescence whereas in girls it increases with age, (Finkelhor, 2015).

## **II. Pervasiveness of abuse**

According to Olafson 2011, the pervasiveness rate of child sexual abuse is higher in girls than in boys and most of the abusers are known to the survivor who are commonly male. Girls are more susceptible to sexual abuse than boy that is, three to four times more likely to be sexually abused than boys (Barth et.al, 2013; Finkelhor, 2015). However, these approximations are as a result of underreporting, social stigma about the sexual abuse of boys and unsubstantiated cases. Further methodological issues have had a focus on CSA studies on female survivors resulting to these differences, (Tillman et al., 2016). In this regard, research on CSA on boys has not been adequately explored (Barth et al., 2013). Nevertheless, the pervasiveness rates have placed girls at a higher risk of CSA than boys. For boys the risk of sexual abuse is highest during adolescence but for girls it increases with age, (Finkelhor, 20015). Studies show that 6 percent all pupils are sexually abused each year, Finklehor, (2015), but due to underreporting, this might be higher. However, this doesn't nullify the fundamental reality that sexual violence against boys and men is rampant.

Although it is globally conceded that sexual violence on pupils is manifested in all countries and societal level, dependable statistics on CSA is limited (Holtzman & Menning, 2014). According to Noel *et al.*, (2012) 46 percent of women have experienced attempted or consummated compulsive sex by an intimate partner or ex-partner at one point in live. Domestic violence and rape have contributed highly to a tune of approximately 5–16 percent of healthy years of life forfeited to women of reproductive age.

There is noticeable under documentation and under-reporting of CSA therefore the true scale of the problem cannot be traced from the published statistics. This has also created a difficulty in the comparison of studies. The reasons for under-reporting are subtle and nuanced but typically they include fear of vengeance or out-laugh, and a lack of boldness in investigators, Social workers, community health volunteers, police and health workers (Bowen et al., 2015). Data on CSA against boys is limited because boys are less likely to reports sexual violence compared to girls. Based on underreporting, getting accurate rates of the incidence rates and pervasiveness estimation of child sexual abuse is very difficult. According to Oseni, Lawani, & Oyedeji, (2016), CSA is seldomly reported at the time when the violence occurs and sometimes it's never reported. Moreover, in many countries, there is no dependable reporting system for sexual violence. This set up is pounded by the fact that the definitions of CSA dissent among countries, making comparisons difficult. The available data from other regions of the world suggest that between 7 percent and 36 percent of girls, and between 3 percent and 29 percent of boys, at one point in live, have suffered from sexual violence.

Most studies show that Sexual Violence against girls is 2–3 times more widespread in the world than that against boys, of he reported cases of CSA, only 10–15 percent involves boys, a finding which demonstrates gap between reporting and occurrence of CSA in boys. In the international criminal activity, child prostitution and women trafficking has become one of the fast-growing concerns. According to official approximations, between 1 and 2 million women and children are trafficked each year globally for forced labour, domestic

servitude or sexual exploitation. Generally, the susceptibility of women of lower economic status to sexual slavery, trafficking and sexual harassment is higher than for those with stable income, (Akinyemi et al., 2017).

**III. Research Design**

The study used a descriptive survey. The research targeted 700 pupils of grade 5-8 from three different schools in Emesa Sub-Location which is in Kisii County, these included 280 pupils from Emesa Primary school, 200 pupils from Kabonyo primary school and 220 pupils from Nyabisase Primary school. The need to have respondents that can comfortably respond to the questions in the questionnaire guided the choice of this group. Respondents were of age bracket 10 to 17 years. This group of pupils had an understanding on how to fill in a questionnaire therefore yielded the required information for the research. The pupils who were unable to fill the questionnaire were guided by the research. The study also targeted 100 parents, 1 assistant chief, 6 village elders and 3 headteachers.

**IV. Findings**

**Gender of the pupils**

The respondents sampled in the study comprised of both male and female pupils. Consequently, they were required to indicate their gender by ticking on the spaces provided in the questionnaire. Table 3 shows the distribution of the respondents by gender.

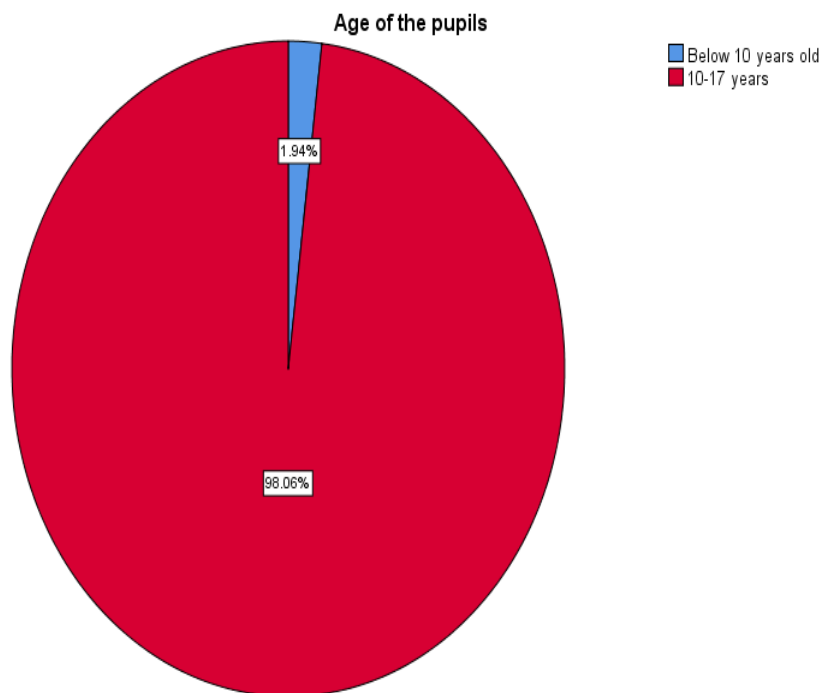
**Table 1: Gender of the Pupils**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	14	15.5	15.5	15.5
	Female	86	84.5	84.5	100.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

Source: (Author 2020)

Accordinging the table above, majority of the pupils surveyed were female which was represented by 84.7 percent. This is in line with Landolt et.al., (2016) who observed that most victims of sexual abuse are females.

**Figure 4.2 Age of the pupils**



Source: Researcher, 2020.

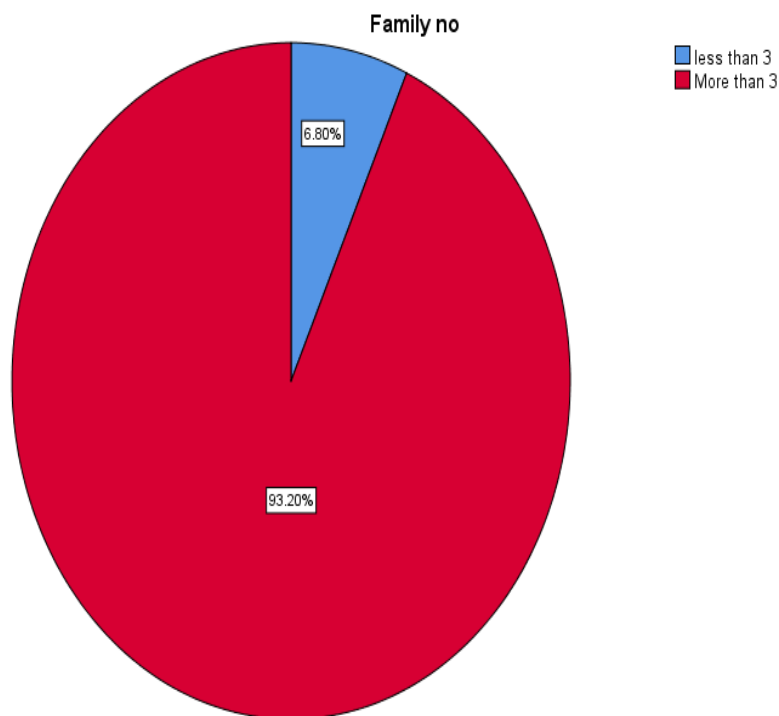
Accordingly, it revealed that the majority of the respondents were between 10 and 17 years of age which comprised of 98.06% of the respondents implying that they are of the teenage age thus there is a need to establish or causes of sexual abuse from this age bracket stated.

**Table 4.3 Family number**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	less than 3	7	6.8	6.8	6.8
	More than 3	93	93.2	93.2	100.0
Total		100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020

**Figure 4.3 Family Number**



Source: Researcher, 2020

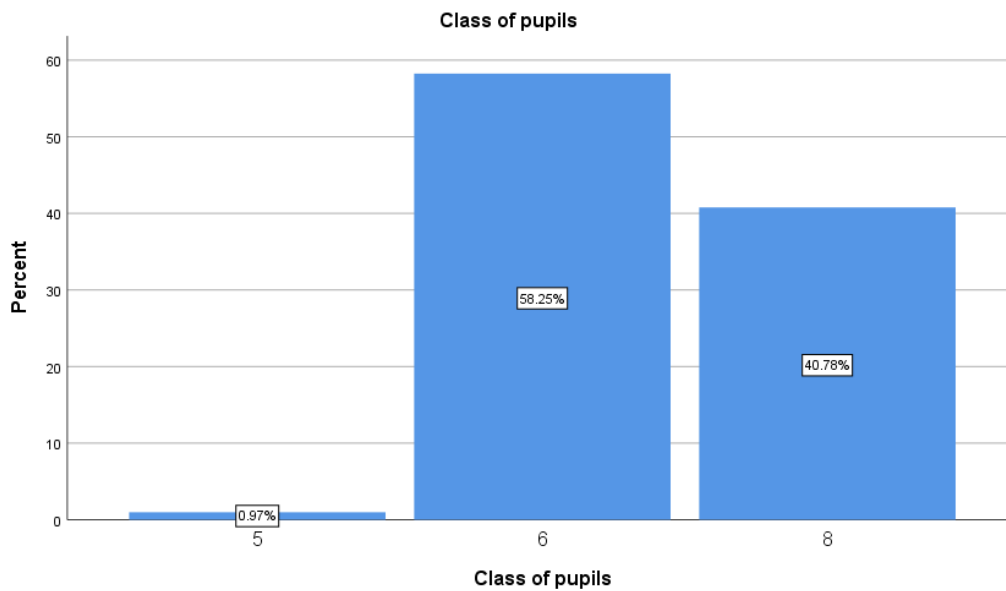
The study conducted has shown that 93.20% of the families from Emesa Sub location have been found to be having more than 3 members of the households while the 6.80% have less than 3 members of the households.

**Table 4.4 Class of pupils**

Class of pupils		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	5	1	1.0	1.0	1.0
	6	57	58.3	58.3	59.2
	8	42	40.8	40.8	100.0
Total		100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020

**Figure 4.4 Class of pupils**



Source: Researcher, 2020

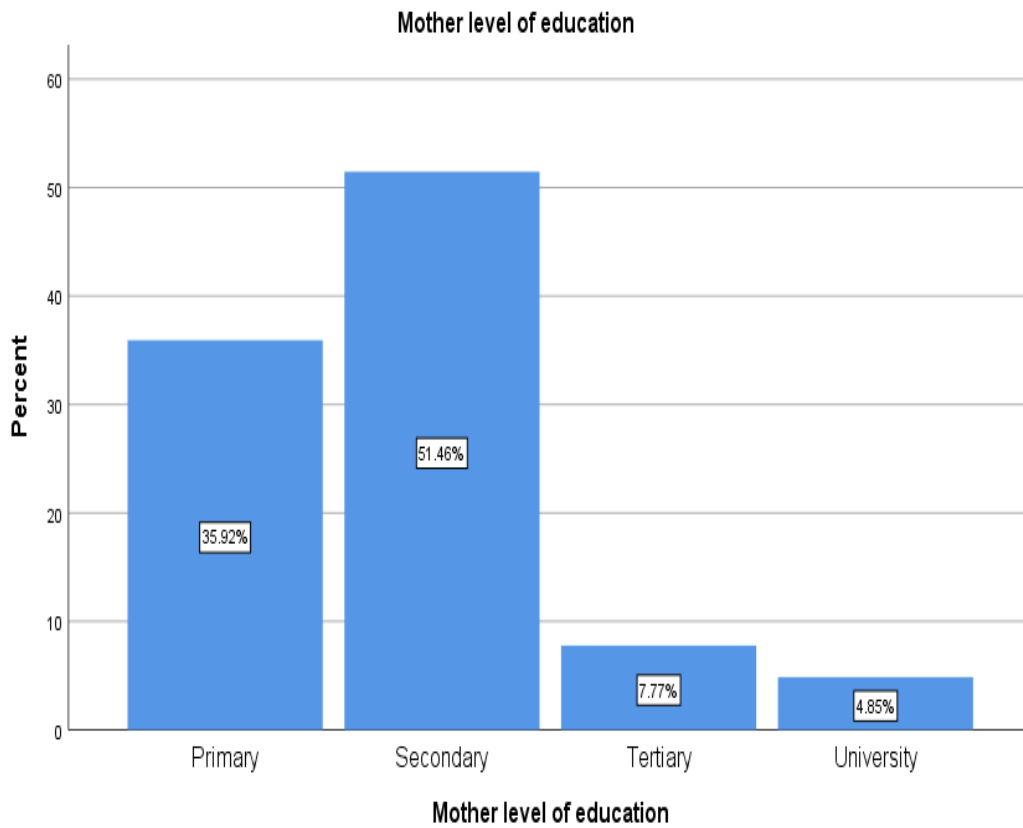
The pupils who responded were mainly from class 5, 6 and class 8, in proportion class 6 had 58.25% of the pupils that took part in giving responses while class 8 took 40.78% of the total sample population that was explored.

**Table 4.5 Mother level of education**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Primary	37	35.9	35.9	35.9
	Secondary	50	51.5	51.5	87.4
	Tertiary	8	7.8	7.8	95.1
	University	5	4.9	4.9	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020

**Figure 4.5 Mother level of education**



Source: Researcher, 2020

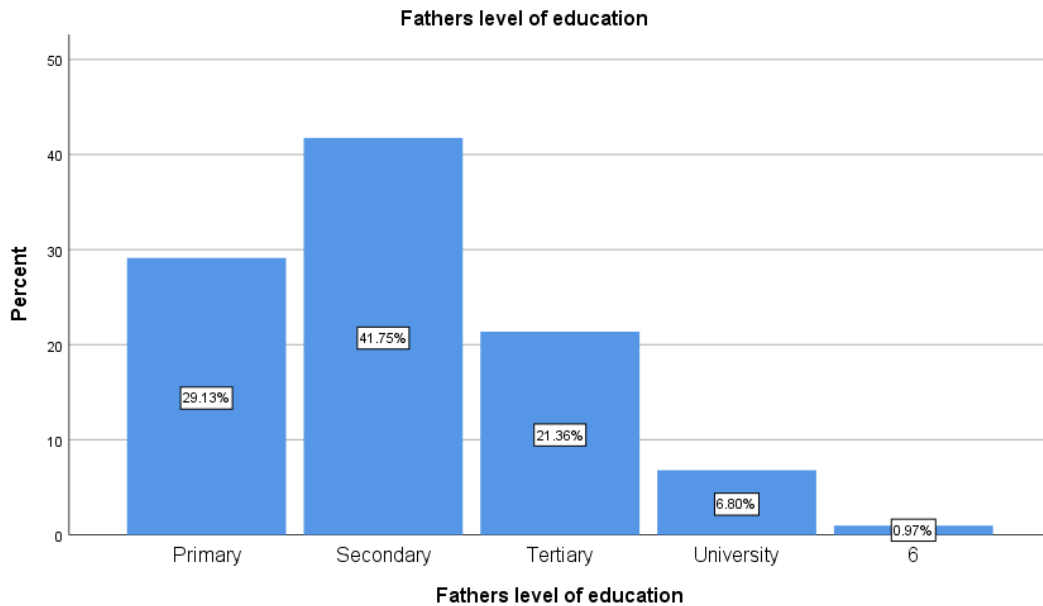
From the study it was shown that the pupils that took part, 51.46% recorded that their mothers’ level of education was Secondary thus there is need to know the etiology of the sexual abuse to equip them know how to protect themselves. 35.92% recorded that their parents’ level of education was Primary. 15.91% recorded that theirs was Tertiary while University was 4.55%. The higher percentage of parents did not get to tertiary education this deems proper for research to on etiology of sexual abuse to be conducted and the findings will really equip them on how to cope up this malady.

**Table 4.6 Fathers level of education**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Primary	30	29.1	29.1	29.1
	Secondary	40	41.7	41.7	70.9
	Tertiary	22	21.4	21.4	92.2
	University	7	6.8	6.8	99.0
	6	1	1.0	1.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020

**Figure 4.6 Fathers level of education**



Source: Researcher, 2020

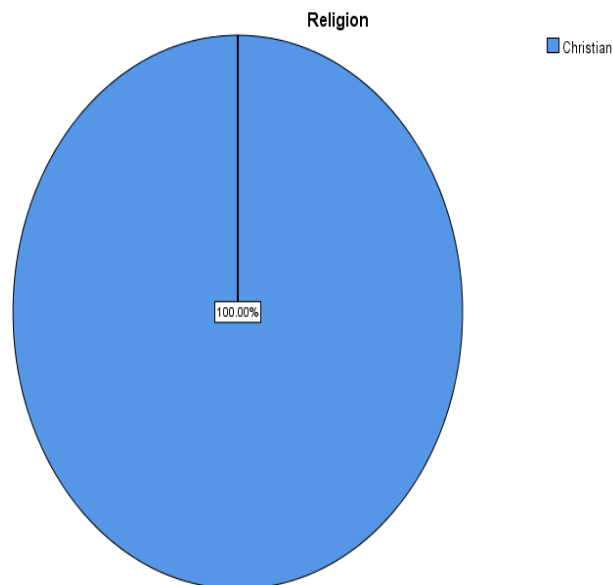
From the study it was shown that the pupils that took part, 41.75% recorded that their fathers' level of education was Secondary thus there is need to know the etiology of the sexual abuse to equip them know how to protect themselves. 29.13% recorded that their fathers' level of education was Primary. 21.36% recorded that theirs was Tertiary while University was 6.80%. The higher percentage of parents did not get to tertiary education this deems proper for research to on etiology of sexual abuse to be conducted and the findings will really equip them on how to cope up this malady.

**Table 4.7 Religion**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Christian	100	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Researcher, 2020

**Figure 4.7 Religion**



Source: Researcher, 2020

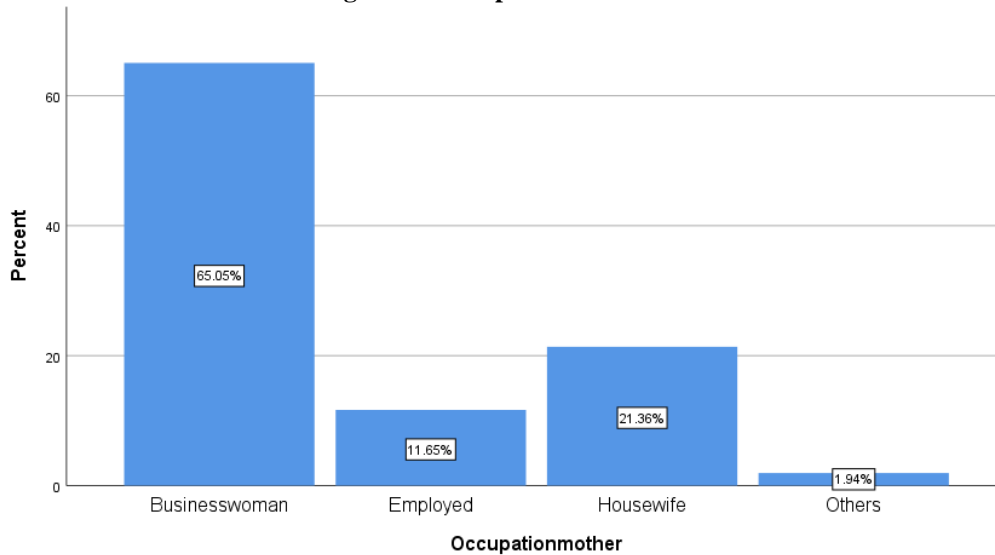
**Table 4.8 Occupation of mother**

Pupils from Emesa sub location majority of them are Christians as the research indicated showing that all the participants, we Christians.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Businesswoman	64	65.0	65.0	65.0
	Employed	12	11.7	11.7	76.7
	Housewife	22	21.4	21.4	98.1
	Others	2	1.9	1.9	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020

**Figure 4.9 Occupation of mother**



Source: Researcher, 2020

The mothers to pupils from Emesa, 65.05% are business women with others engaging in employments and housewives and others engage in other activities to earn a living for their families

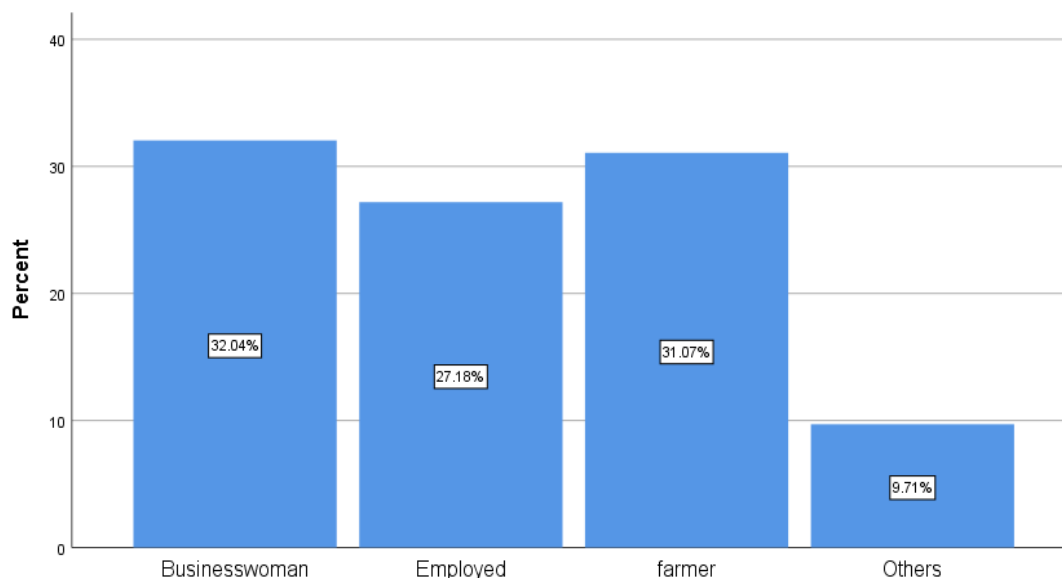
**Table 4.9 Occupation of father**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Businesswoman	31	32.0	32.0	32.0
	Employed	28	27.2	27.2	59.2
	farmer	30	31.1	31.1	90.3
	Others	10	9.7	9.7	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020



Figure 4.9 Occupation of Father



Source: Researcher, 2020

Fathers being the bread winners of their families. The research which was conducted has shown that 32.04% of the people from Emesa sub location are business men and 27.18% of the population of married men at Emesa is employed while the 31.07% are peasant farmer who depends on agriculture and 9.71% depend on other activities to earn a living and provide essentials for their families.

Table 4.10 Other relative

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	23	22.3	22.3	22.3
	No	77	77.7	77.7	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher, 2020

Pupils opinion on Pervasiveness Rate of Sexual Abuse

Table 2: Pupils' Opinion on Pervasiveness Rate of Sexual Abuse

	Yes		No		Don't Know	
	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %
Has anyone ever made you have sex by using force or threatening to harm you or someone close to you	7	6.9%	84	82.4%	10	9.8%
Has anyone made or tried to make you have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when you did not want to by simply being overwhelmed by someone's continual pestering and verbal pressure?	16	15.7%	75	73.5%	7	6.9%
Has anyone attempted but not succeeded in making you take part in any of the unwanted sexual experiences?	23	22.5%	69	67.6%	10	9.8%
Have you ever experienced any unwanted or uninvited touching of a sexual nature since you began school? This includes forced kissing, touching of private parts, grabbing, fondling, and rubbing up against you in a sexual way, even if it is over your cloth	18	17.6%	80	78.4%	4	3.9%
Has anyone ever made or tried to make you have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when you did not want to by making threats of nonphysical punishment, such as lowering a grade, damaging your reputation, or being excluded from class for failure to comply	14	13.7%	80	78.4%	8	7.8%

Source: (Author 2020)

The research findings have revealed that 82.4% of the pupils have never had sex by someone who forces or threatens, 73.5% denied that nobody has made or tried to make them have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when they did not want by either continue pestering or verbal pressure. However, 15.7% agreed they have been coerced to have sex by someone known to them, 22.5% said agreed that some persons had tried but not succeeded in making them take part in unwanted sex, 67.5% of the pupils rejected that nobody has attempted to force them take part in unwanted sexual intercourse, and 17.6% pupils have experienced unwanted or uninvited touching of sexual intercourse since they began school. 78.4% of the pupils denied that they haven't experienced sexual intercourse while 78.4% rejected that some persons have made or tried to make them have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when they did not want to by making threats of nonphysical punishment, such as lowering a grade, damaging your reputation, or being excluded from class for failure to comply while 13.7% agreed that they had been through this kind of situation.

**Parental Opinion on Pervasiveness Rate of Sexual Abuse**

**Table 3: Parental Opinion on Pervasiveness Rate of Sexual Abuse**

	SD		D		NS		A		SA	
	Cou nt	Row N %	Cou nt	Row N %	Cou nt	Row N %	Cou nt	Row N %	Co unt	Row N %
Some children are sexually abused by older children	7	6.7%	2	1.9%	2	1.9%	19	18.1%	75	71.4%
Most people who sexually abuse children do not belong to the child's family	20	19.0%	5	4.8%	6	5.7%	26	24.8%	48	45.7%
Most of the time children are sexually abused when they are alone, at night, and outside their home	3	2.9%	3	2.9%	2	1.9%	22	21.0%	75	71.4%
Only girls are victims of sexual abuse	32	30.5%	25	23.8%	14	13.3%	21	20.0%	13	12.4%
Sexually abused boys are usually not homosexual	29	27.6%	8	7.6%	28	26.7%	26	24.8%	14	13.3%
Children from reputable families are not victims of sexual abuse	20	19.0%	6	5.7%	45	42.9%	14	13.3%	20	19.0%
Children who report being victims of sexual abuse are not necessarily placed in foster care following these revelations	10	9.5%	10	9.5%	31	29.5%	25	23.8%	29	27.6%
Few children are victims of sexual abuse	23	21.9%	7	6.7%	14	13.3%	26	24.8%	34	32.4%
Only young children are victims of sexual abuse	45	42.9%	15	14.3%	14	13.3%	18	17.1%	12	11.4%
Boys are not sexually abused	37	35.2%	17	16.2%	25	23.8%	15	14.3%	11	10.5%
A majority of sexual abuse perpetrators are retarded or mentally ill	42	40.0%	12	11.4%	18	17.1%	20	19.0%	13	12.4%
Some children are sexually abused by older children	15	14.3%	10	9.5%	4	3.8%	40	38.1%	36	34.3%

**Source: (Author 2020)**

Findings have shown that 89.5% of the parents indicated that some children are sexually abused by older children. Most people who sexually abuse children do not belong to the child's family as agreed by 70.5% of the respondents while 23.8% of the respondents rejected it. 92.4% of the parents alluded that most sexual abuse happened when the pupils are alone at night or outside their home.

It was fairly disagreed and agreed that boys who get sexually abused are homosexual and equally that children from reputable families that are not the victims of sexual abuse. 51.4% of the respondents lamented that children who report being victims of sexual abuse are not necessarily placed in foster care following these revelations. The findings further show that 57.2% agreed that few children are victims of sexual abuse as 57.2% of the parents disagreed that only young children are victims of this sexual abuse and 51.4% of the parents disagreed that majority of sexual abused are retarded or mentally ill.

**Opinion of Key Informants on Pervasiveness of CSA**

In an interview with one of the headteacher on his opinion on the pervasiveness rate of child sexual abuse among pupils in Emesa sublocation, his opinions were in line with the responses from the clan elders and the assistant chief. It was noted that some pupils had reported that at one time in life they had been forced to engage in sexual intercourse with someone close to them due to continued pestering and verbal pressure. He also noted that coercion and maltreatment is also common among the child sexual abuse cases. Some teachers were reported to have abused the pupils sexually by the use of threats i.e lowering a pupil's grade or exclusion from the class if the pupil does not accept to be involved in the sexual activity. He pointed out that child sexual

abuse rate is high during the weekends and holidays when the students are not in school. Surprisingly, boys were reluctant to disclose their sexual abuse experience because they feared being labeled as instigators which could lead to family separation. Nevertheless, there are some cases that are reported during the weekdays, as stated by the excerpt below:

“Many pupils have suffered in this Sub-location particularly in this school in silence. Most the perpetrators take advantage of the pupils when they are not in school during the weekends and holidays to abuse them through enticements. Nonetheless some abuse occurs even during the weekdays in the evening... Continued verbal pressure and threats from teachers on lowering the pupil’s grade is also very common since the pupils easily give in” It is worth noting that boys are always reluctant to disclose their sexual violence experience because they fear being labeled as instigators which could lead to family separation, most of them suffer in silence, (Headteacher 2020)

## **V. Discussion of Findings**

Globally, there is stigma in reporting CSA among the pupils, this is partly viewed in terms of the shame it could bring in the event that a close family member was perpetrator, (Mayer & McHugh, 2016). According to this study, boys were reluctant to disclose their sexual violence experience because they feared being labeled as instigators which could lead to family separation. The abusers were close family members to the children who they depend on making it difficult for them to report the case. There was a noted reluctance by the authorities in terms of response to child abuse cases making the vice go unpunished. Social disorganization was reported as a motivating factor that leads to sexual abuse thus the society needs to be restructured. According to Zhu et al., (2015) the verbal threats such as causing physical injury and/or withdrawing a favour from the survivor on reporting the abuse prevented the disclosure of these cases by the pupils.

The disclosure of sexual violence is dependent on the protection of the victim from the perpetrator that if for disclosure to be effective, the government should protect the survivor upon report and take him/her to a safe place where the perpetrator cannot access. The development sequelae of the child is influenced by social support, the lower risks of mental health risk are associated with high social support, (Coll, 2015). Surprisingly, the survivors mentioned close family members as the perpetrators and were reluctant reporting them for fear of punishment and disbelief from the society. The finding that most child sexual abuse is done by someone well known to the survivor was reiterated since neighbors, teachers, relatives and friends were mentioned frequently as perpetrators. Some of the respondents revealed that they had been involved in abusing children sexually.

According to Olafson (2011) the pervasiveness rate of child sexual abuse is higher in girls than in boys and most of the abusers are known to the survivor who are commonly male. Girls are more susceptible to sexual abuse than boys that is, three to four times more likely to be sexually abused than boys (Barth et.al, 2013). The research findings have revealed that the pervasiveness rate of girls’ sexual abuse was three to four times more than boys this is in line with the scientific studies done before. It is worth noting that 82.4% of the pupils have never had sex by someone who forces or threatens, 73.5% denied that nobody has made or tried to make them have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when they did not want by either continue pestering or verbal pressure. However, 15.7% agreed they have been coerced to have sex by someone known to them, 22.5% said agreed that some persons had tried but not succeeded in making them take part in unwanted sex, 67.5% of the pupils rejected that nobody has attempted to force them take part in unwanted sexual intercourse, and 17.6% pupils have experienced unwanted or uninvited touching of sexual intercourse since they began school. 78.4% of the pupils denied that they haven’t experienced sexual intercourse while 78.4% rejected that some persons have made or tried to make them have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when they did not want to by making threats of nonphysical punishment, such as lowering a grade, damaging your reputation, or being excluded from class for failure to comply while 13.7% agreed that they had been through this kind of situation. The children who experience sexual abuse often face violence on multiple aspects within the family (such as interparental violence and physical maltreatment).

Despite the multitudinous antagonist effects of Child sexual abuse, indefinite number of children seek help, conceivably because they are not conscious of the availability of the services, non-availability of the services, or the associated stigma (Masilo, 2018). Although the control of and response to child sexual abuse has been seen traditionally as the responsibility of law enforcement and social welfare, the schools, community and the health sectors can integrate sexual abuse mitigation and care into routine programmatic activities by building clear links to social services to achieve maximal benefit for social measures. Therefore, in an event of a teacher threatens to lower a student grade in exchange for sexual favors, the headteachers need to take necessary disciplinary action with the employer so that the children are protected and ensure learning in an abuse free environment. The clan elders and assistant chief need to take a stern disciplinary action against the perpetrators who touch the pupils their private parts and/or abuse them sexually. The social workers, community health volunteers and counselors need to have an improved identification of those children experiencing sexual violence and the subsequent delivery of counseling and seeking legal assistance for the victims.

## VI. CONCLUSION

The study revealed that the pervasiveness rate of child sexual abuse is higher in girls than in boys and most of the abusers are known to the survivor who are commonly male. Girls are more susceptible to sexual abuse than boy that is, three to four times more likely to be sexually abused than boys. There was no significant relationship between pervasiveness rate and child sexual abuse since most of the pupils denied that they have never had sex with someone who forces or threatens, majority denied that nobody has made or tried to make them have sexual intercourse or sexual contact when they did not want by either continue pestering or verbal pressure. This suggests that pervasiveness rate is not critical in determining child sexual abuse. However, some of the pupils agreed that they have been coerced to have sex with someone known to them and said reported that some persons had tried but not succeeded in making them take part in unwanted sex. The patriarchal mental apprehension on sexual entitlement is a root to sexual abuse. The notion that sex is a female resource that should be exploited has contributed highly to sexual abuse among children especially girls, (Patricia Carter, 2017). There was powerlessness felt by many participants in their abusive experiences making them feel obligated to move on even if they knew things were not right.

## VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The focus on the protection and assistance of children and women should be held by government policies, Social welfare programs and research. The male chauvinism culture should be condemned and the society dialogue on what it is to be a man. Men should view women and children as persons of equal right to theirs and not feel the sexual entitlement on children and women dominance. The recognition of children and women rights and the improvement of their social position play a key role in the prevention of CSA

### Declaration of conflict of interest

The authors declares on conflict of interest.

## VIII. Authors' Information

**Orocho Justine Amadi** is an accomplished social worker and researcher with over 10 years of experience in the field. As a generalist social worker, he possesses a broad range of skills and knowledge that enable him to work effectively with diverse populations. He has a deep understanding of the complex factors that contribute to social problems, and he is committed to finding practical solutions that make a meaningful difference in people's lives. He is deeply committed to using his expertise to make a positive impact in the world. He regularly engages in community service and outreach activities, working to raise awareness of social issues and advocate for change. His dedication and passion for social work has made him a respected and valued member of the academic community, and a source of inspiration for his students. His research interests are centered around some of the most pressing social issues of our time, including child sexual abuse, gender-based violence, and the prevention of obstetric fistula.

**Kelele Joshua Mukishoe** is a highly knowledgeable and experienced sociology lecturer with a deep passion for his field. Joshua is known for his engaging and dynamic teaching style, which incorporates a variety of teaching methods to ensure that his students are fully engaged and actively learning. He is also highly approachable and committed to providing his students with the support and guidance they need to succeed in their studies. In addition to his teaching, Joshua is an accomplished researcher who has published numerous articles and papers in leading sociology journals. His research interests span a broad range of topics, including social inequality, race and ethnicity, and social movements.

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